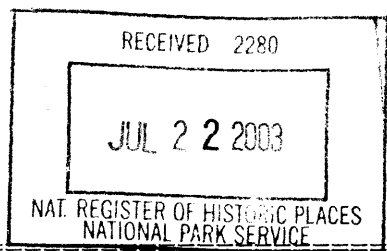


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

875



1. Name of Property

historic name Citizens State Bank

other names/site number Gold Dome Bank/Liberty Bank/Bank One

2. Location

street & number 1112 Northwest 23rd not for publication N/A
city or town Oklahoma City vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Oklahoma code 109
zip code 73106

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

7-21-03
Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ✓ entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the
 National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the
 National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

 9-4-03

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: financial institution

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: financial institution

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement: Geodesic Dome

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof METAL: aluminum

walls BRICK

CERAMIC TILE

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☒ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1958

=====

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

=====

Significant Dates 1958

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson and Roloff, architects
Secor Construction Company, Inc., contractor

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

___ previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

X State Historic Preservation Office

___ Other State agency

___ Federal agency

___ Local government

___ University

___ Other

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property Less than five acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>633260</u>	<u>3928680</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>N/A See continuation sheet.</u>					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Cynthia Savage, Arch. Historian, for Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.

organization Savage Consulting date December 2002

street & number Rt. 1, Box 116 telephone 405/459-6200

city or town Pocasset state OK zip code 73079

=====

Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Gold Dome LLC, C/O Leslie Owens

street & number P.O. Box 22512 telephone (405) 205-5557

city or town Oklahoma City state OK zip code 73123-1512

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Citizens State Bank
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county and State

SUMMARY

Constructed in 1958, the Citizens State Bank is a distinctive Modern style building with an unusual, gold-colored, anodized aluminum geodesic dome for a roof. Designed by Robert B. Roloff of the Oklahoma City architectural firm Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson & Roloff, the building was constructed by Secor Building Company, Inc., also of Oklahoma City. Originally, the dome was a bright gold but it has faded over the years and is now a patchy gold and silver color. The dome also originally had black aluminum struts which reinforced the roof panels. The struts have also lost their color, now being white with a few missing. The dome rests on two large concrete bents which divides the building into two elevations. Separating the dome from the walls is a ten-foot-wide concrete canopy which encircles the primarily circular building. The ten-foot high walls are a combination of gold-veined black mosaic tile on the front and light orange and brown brick on the rear. The building has two public entrances, both in the front half of the building adjacent to the bents. Each entry has two aluminum, glazed, slab doors separated by a single wide sidelight with sidelights to the outside. On the southeast side of the building is a private entrance consisting of double, metal, slab doors. The ribbon windows dominating the north half of the building are fixed aluminum, as are the three sets of shorter ribbon windows separately located on the south side.

Although the condition of the dome has been declining slightly, both the interior and the exterior of the building retains a good degree of integrity. On the interior, many of the original finishes remain remarkably intact in the primary public space, including the lobby's terrazzo floor, teller area and mezzanine-level railing. Modifications to the interior include opening office areas on the mezzanine level in 1971; installing a dropped acoustical tile ceiling in the lobby; replacement of the original "flying disc" lights with flush florescent lights; and, installation of wooden screens at eight of the sixteen teller positions. Overall, these changes are minor and do not significantly impact the integrity of the interior. On the exterior, the most notable alteration is the construction of the seven-lane drive-thru and walk-up lobby on the south side of the building in the 1970s. Historically, the bank featured four "drive-up" windows on the south side and one walk-up window on the west side of the building. The 1971 drive-thru replaced the earlier drive-ups while allowing greater vehicular access for the bank customers. The drive-thru addition is constructed of a matching brick with gold-veined black mosaic tile accents and a glass-enclosed lobby on the far southeast side. The roof of the drive-thru addition is flat but features a wide, undulating, ribbed, gold aluminum coping. Although constructed of remarkably similar materials, the

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drive-thru is easily distinguishable from the original primarily circular building. The drive-thru is located on what is the rear of the building and is not the same height as the original building. Between 1975 and 1978, the bank added another vault in the area formerly occupied by the walk-up window on the west side of the building and constructed a new walk-up lobby on the southeast side of the 1971 drive-thru addition. This construction of a third interior vault resulted in a concrete addition to the concrete bent on the west side of the building. Although similarly ornamented, the addition is easily differentiated by its lighter two-tone color. Overall, due to their scale, design and location, the additions do not significantly impede the ability of the building to convey its historic significance.

The bank is prominently located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Northwest 23rd Street and Classen Boulevard. The bank and its parking lot are the only resources on the entire block which formerly contained an elementary school. Both Northwest 23rd Street and Classen Boulevard are major thoroughfares in Oklahoma City. In addition to dividing several of the city's historic 1920s and 1930s era neighborhoods, Northwest 23rd also historically served as part of the famed United States Highway 66. Although the presence of Route 66 obviously increased traffic in the area - it was a major east-west route in the city, it is doubtful it (the US highway) had a significant impact on the construction of Citizens State Bank. The bank was erected at the intersection of two busy streets for its convenience to its primary customers, area residents and businessmen.

The setting of the bank remains a commercial enclave just off several historic inner city neighborhoods. However within the last five years or so, a new modern drugstore with a sizeable parking lot was erected on the corner directly to the north of the bank. Farther north, the small Milk Bottle Building (NR 1998) continues to distinguish the unusual jog in the streets of the small commercial area. The corner to the west of the bank remains vacant as it has been for many years with historic houses located to the south of this. To the northwest of the bank, there are several historic, brick, commercial buildings, several of which have been unsympathetically modified. South of the bank is the multi-story Citizens Tower, designed by the same firm as the bank and erected in about 1964, and its two-story parking garage.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

Stylistically, Citizens State Bank is classified as Modern, subcategory Geodesic Dome. The building is the epitome of functional design, evidenced by

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the continued use of the building as originally intended with minimal changes. Additionally, the characteristics of the geodesic dome are a testament to the Modern style, with a clear expression of the up-to-date use of materials and techniques. The design and ornamentation of the building also borrow little from historic precedents. Despite being constructed during the Populuxe era, Citizens State Bank does not embody the overall characteristics of this style. The bank does not express the streamlined, space-struck look of Populuxe architecture.

Citizens State Bank has been locally known for years as the "Gold Dome Bank" for its distinctive, gold, geodesic, aluminum, dome roof. The dome's diameter measures 145 feet and it rises seventy feet above the ground, including the ten foot wall it rests on. Crowning the dome is a gold cupola with slats along the sides and a flat roof. Originally, the gold of the dome contrasted with the black aluminum struts which reinforced the 625 diamond-shaped, pre-stressed, aluminum panels. Over the passage of time, the gold of the dome has faded so that many of the panels are now silver and the struts are pretty uniformly white now. Nonetheless, sufficient color remains to continue to characterize the building as the Gold Dome Bank.

The footprint of the bank is basically round. The dome rests on large concrete bents which extend from the walls on the northeast and southwest sides of the building. The triangular bents (actually reinforced concrete wall of interior rooms), dark brown in color, are ornamented with vertical and horizontal incised lines. The bents have a flat roof which flares away from the building. The slight flare of the roof is reinforced by the triangular design of the bents and the ten-foot-wide concrete canopy which encircles the main building but not the bents. In addition to supporting the roof, the bents were incorporated into the original design of the interior. Thus, the building is not truly circular in design with the bents providing triangular extensions.

In the mid-1970s, a concrete addition was added to the bent on the west side of the building. The addition covers the original walk-up window and contains a third vault, which is how the addition was dated. According to the records at the Oklahoma County Assessor's Office, a third vault was added to the building between 1975 and 1978. The addition tries to emulate the geometric feeling of the building but it is taller and quadrilateral while the historic bent is triangular. Although ornamented similar to the historic bent with incised lines, the addition is colored distinctively with a light brown on the top and sides and an almost white on the lower portion of the front. The concrete addition has a flared flat roof; however, the flare extends to the north along

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the side of the building, rather than away from the building as the original bents do. Although blocking part of the historic bent, the addition is sufficiently distinguishable from the original design of the building to as not destroy the integrity of the overall design.

As briefly mentioned above, there is a ten-foot-wide concrete canopy which encircles the main circular portion of the building. The wide canopy features a dark brown metal edging and dark brown metal railing. The railing has a solid top with an open chicken wire design below. Systematically placed around the canopy in slightly recessed sections of the canopy edging, outside of the railing, are large, concrete, geometric brackets. The brackets ornament concrete forms behind the railing which extend along the canopy from the roof to the railing. Round, inset, light fixtures scattered on the underside of the concrete canopy provide light, as well as minimal ornamentation.

Being circular, there should not be "primary" and "secondary" facades on the Citizens State bank The building, though does have two elevations. The concrete bents divide the building in half with the front, more elaborate, portion being on the northwest side of the building and the lesser ornamented back portion facing southeast. The main circular walls of the building are further divided into nearly even sections by dark brown, concrete dividers. The dividers on the north side, technically the front of the building, are more elaborate than the simple rectangular dividers of the south side of the building. On the north side, the dividers appear to be in two sections with the larger quadrilateral section flaring down from the canopy to the ground. This section is ornamented with incised lines similar to the larger bents but the lines slant dramatically upwards in contrast to the downward design of the piece. Extending from the canopy is the second piece of the front dividers which consists of a simple, pointed, triangular element which thrusts downward upon the face of the larger section. Although visually dividing the front of the building into sections, the elaborate front dividers are not actually engaged in the wall. On the back portion of the building, defined by the bents, the dividers are fully engaged and are simple rectangular columns with incised horizontal bands for ornamentation.

The walls of the front half of the building are gold-veined black mosaic tile broken by fixed, metal, ribbon windows. The front portion of the building is divided into ten sections. The two sections containing the primary entries are slightly smaller than the other eight sections which contain only windows. The entry sections are located on opposite sides of the buildings adjacent to the bents with the doorways being noticeably recessed. The side walls of the

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entryways are clad with gold-veined black mosaic tile. The entries are almost identical with two metal, glazed, slab doors separated by a single sidelight. Each door also has a single sidelight to the outside. Differentiating the entries are the narrow fixed transoms above the doors on the northeast side of the building. The southwest entries do not have any transoms. Each of the remaining eight sections of the front half of the building feature five, fixed, metal windows which extend about half the length of the wall. The small, gold-veined, black, mosaic tile covers the remaining wall. Below this, each of the eight sections also has a raised, concrete, landscaping bed between the dividers, further separating the building from the encircling sidewalk.

The less decorative rear of the building features a light colored orange and brown brick with minimal openings. Like the front half, the back portion is divided into sections. There are eleven sections in the rear part of the building with the two closest to the bents being smaller than the evenly spaced remaining sections. The only entry located on the back half of the building is located in the section adjacent to the northeast bent. The entry consists of double, metal, slab doors. The section next to this contains a set of five, metal, ribbon windows which extend only about a quarter of the way down the wall. This fenestration matches the corresponding section on the opposite side of the building. Differentiating the two sections is the presence of the metal night deposit slot on the southwest side. Only one other section contains matching windows, the section adjacent to the drive-thru addition on the east side. The four original drive-in windows located on the back building have been completely obliterated with matching brick in-fill.

The 1971 drive-thru addition is attached to the main building on only two of the rear sections (see floor plan page 15). From the east, the addition is attached to the main building by a brick wall which matches in color and texture the historic brick. However, the addition is easily differentiated by the ribbed, gold, aluminum coping which begins at the intersection of the addition and original building. On the west side, the addition includes a concrete section which curves away from the original wall to connect with the primary brick wall of the addition. The brown concrete is ornamented with closely-spaced, incised, vertical lines. The drive-thru addition extends away from the main building in a narrow, rectilinear form before spreading out into a long rectangle. On the south side, the addition consists of three brick areas connected by an undulating roof. The drive-thru contains seven lanes divided into two primary areas. There are four lanes on the east side and three lanes on the west with a brick teller booth separating the two areas. Supporting the roof on the far west side is a brick wall which contains a

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nonoriginal bricked ATM machine on the west side. Although similar, the pattern of the brick for the ATM is noticeably different from the earlier wall. Identical to the other walls, the narrow portion of the original brick wall is concave and clad with gold-veined black mosaic tile. To the east of the wall are two concrete islands containing the mechanical vacuum systems used to convey the tubes from the customer to the teller. To the east of these is the teller booth which connects to the main building. On the west side of the booth is the large, double, fixed, metal teller window which has a flush, metal, drive-in box below with gold-veined black mosaic tile covering the remaining wall. The other sides of the booth have no openings. Each of the corners of the booth are concave and covered with gold-veined black mosaic tile. A long grassy strip extends away from the center teller booth to the street. To the east of the center teller booth are three more concrete islands with mechanical vacuum systems. To the east of these is a larger teller booth which also contains an office and bathrooms. The two teller booths are connected only by the roof and an underground tunnel. The east teller window is similar to the other teller window with a double, fixed, metal window and metal drive-in box surrounded by gold-veined black mosaic tile. The office area on the east side of the teller booth is possibly an addition as the roof does not have the wide aluminum coping or the concave corners like the rest of the drive-thru. The office area has a single, metal, slab door on the north side and two fixed aluminum windows on the east side. Extending off the office area and drive-thru teller booth on the south side is the mid-1970s walk-up lobby. The lobby features a prominent circular walk-in area with teller area to the north. The public area features full glass walls with two metal, glazed, slab doors. The teller area of the walk-up lobby is a light colored brick which does not match the brick of the drive-thru or original building. The lobby does have the wide aluminum coping matching the majority of the drive-thru.

To the northeast of the south portion of the drive-thru addition is various heating and cooling units for the building. One large unit is fully exposed and sits on the asphalt of the adjacent drive. The other units, including a trash receptacle, are located within a small enclosed area. Hiding much of the equipment is a low wood fence with swinging wood gates.

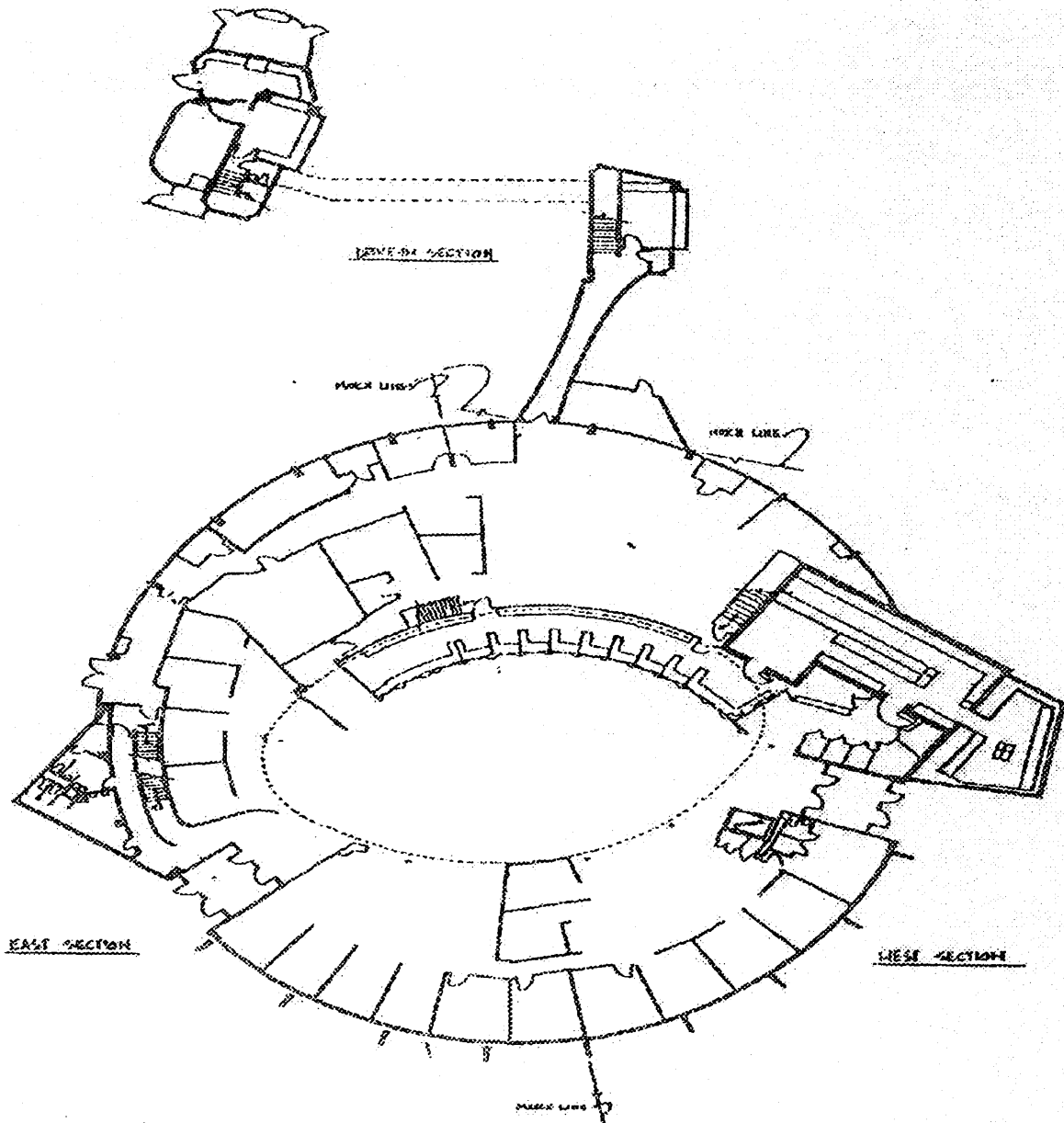
The bank is the only countable resource located on the block. The building is situated towards the west half of the block with standard pull-through parking spaces forming a rectangular parking lot on the east half of the block. Due to the unusual configuration of the building, a circular road encircles most of

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FIRST FLOOR MASTER PLAN

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the building with limited pull-in parking available on the front of the building.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior of Citizens State Bank retains a good degree of integrity. Much of the interior is not publicly accessible, but the main banking room, historically the most significant area, remains remarkably intact. The elliptical lobby features a white and blue terrazzo floor patterned with different size circles. Originally, the ceiling of the lobby was domed and clad with gold aluminum panels similar to the exterior. The historic light fixtures were distinctive "flying discs" which were suspended from the interior dome by three wires. At an unknown time, the ceiling was covered with a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and flush florescent lights replaced the flying discs. Reportedly, this was done because of excessive noise and the original ceiling remains relatively intact above the replacement ceiling. The historic, long, curved, teller counter remains on the south side of the lobby, as does the original overhead canopy above the teller area which is suspended by metal rods. The historic vinyl wall covering with raised walnut ribs also remains behind the teller counter. The only discernible alteration to the teller area has been the suspension of wooden screens at eight of the sixteen teller positions. This was done in the last few years as the bank, under new ownership, does not have the staff or banking functions to necessitate all of the positions. Behind the teller area wall is the historic operations area which remains out of the public view.

On the north side of the main banking floor are various office areas for the different departments of the bank. This space is carpeted, which it was historically. There are only two walled offices with the rest of the areas being divided by partial walls. The offices and cubicles in this area appear to be much as they were historically, although a new center information counter has been located near the northeast side of the area.

The lobby is accessed from the exterior through two glass vestibules located on the northeast and southwest sides of the building. The interior doors match the exterior doors. The walls within the vestibules and immediately upon entering the main lobby are gold-veined black mosaic tile, identical to the exterior front wall material. An exception to the wall material is on the south wall of the southwest entry. Due to the concrete addition on the exterior, the south wall of the vestibule is now concrete, painted white, with incised lines for ornamentation.

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Originally, the mezzanine level of the bank was minimally used for air conditioning equipment. Historically, an exposed mezzanine-level walkway encircled the lobby. The walkway retains its unusual railing ornamented with 42-inch-in-diameter circles. Behind the walkway, the mezzanine level was pretty uniformly walled until 1971. At that time, the mezzanine level was opened to contain various offices for the bank's new trust department. This type of expansion was planned into the original design of the building. Additionally, because much of the construction is not visible from the main banking floor, the expansion has minimal impact on the integrity of the building.

The building also contains a partial basement on the east side. Historically, the basement had an employee lounge and kitchen, restrooms and various storage and mechanical rooms. Although these areas remain, they are not publicly accessible.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Citizens State Bank maintains a good degree of historic integrity. Despite two exterior additions and minor interior alterations, the bank retains the overall qualities of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The exterior additions, although constructed of remarkably similar materials, are readily discernible and do not destroy the integrity of the original design of the building. As described above, the 1971 drive-thru addition is composed of several elements which have also been added onto. Overall, the drive-thru is essentially a narrow rectilinear addition to the rear of the predominately circular building. The drive-thru is not readily visible from the front half of the building. The addition is also much lower in height than the original domed building. Additionally, several large trees obscure much of the relatively small area which actually physically connects the addition to the historic building. The use of matching materials, including the gold-colored aluminum coping, allows the addition to conform to the original building. However, the rectilinear design of the addition with its undulating roof clearly distinguishes the addition from the original predominately circular design.

The smaller concrete addition on the southwest side of the building was constructed several years after the 1971 drive-thru addition. This addition is easily discernible due to its distinctive color scheme and design. The two-toned addition does not match the dark brown of the other concrete elements on the building. The addition also is quadrilateral and heavier in design than

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the original bents. Although the addition is detrimental to the concrete bent to which it is attached, the impact on the overall building is minimal.

The interior of the Citizens State Bank is remarkable for its retention of historic finishes and configuration as described above. The most notable alteration has been the replacement of the original, domed, gold-colored, aluminum panel ceiling with a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. Although lamentable, the covering of the original ceiling does not destroy the integrity of the interior. The opening of the mezzanine level also does not significantly impact the integrity of the interior as the majority of historic elements remain intact. Other changes to the main banking room are incidental with minimal effect on its integrity.

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SUMMARY

Citizens State Bank is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C for its architectural significance as the only geodesic dome in the state constructed for a commercial purpose. Although domes have been used in construction for centuries, geodesic domes are composed of "...a complex network of triangles that form a roughly spherical surface."¹ Unlike other domes, geodesic domes are thus able to span a greater distance while not becoming overly cumbersome themselves. Further, due to their simplified metal components, geodesic domes could be mass produced and assembled in a relatively short time. Beginning in the 1950s, geodesic domes were constructed nationally and internationally for various purposes. For the most part, the domes were predominately used for exhibitions, theaters/auditoriums and athletic facilities. The Citizens State Bank Building was constructed as a commercial venture, leading a wave of radical, modern designs in Oklahoma City banks and becoming a landmark building in its own right. Built in 1958, the bank must also meet Criteria Consideration G as an exceptionally important resource which is less than fifty years old. Citizens State Bank ably meets this requirement as a highly distinctive building which has no parallel in the city.

BACKGROUND

In the late 1940s, Richard Buckminster Fuller "invented" the geodesic dome as part of his work with "energetic-synergetic geometry" which for several decades had focused on improving housing. Previously, a similar dome was constructed in 1922 on the Carl Zeiss Optical Works in Jena, Germany, for use as a planetarium. Several planetarium domes were subsequently constructed, including one in Chicago, built in 1930. However, until Fuller's work with this type of dome, use was restricted to planetariums. Fuller is generally credited with "advanc(ing) the popularization and commercialization of polyhedral buildings in the United States...". Additionally, he is the one who initially applied the word "geodesic" to this type of framing system.²

¹"What is a geodesic dome?" The R. Buckminster Fuller FAQ: Geodesic Domes (<<http://www.netaxs.com/~cjf/fuller-faq-4.html>>, accessed 11 January 2003), 1.

²Ibid. See also "Geodesic Domes and Charts of the Heavens" (<<http://www.telacommunications.com/geodome.htm>>, accessed 18 July 2001).

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The first commercial application of Fuller's geodesic dome in the United States occurred in 1953. In celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, the Ford Motor Company desired a dome for its Dearborn, Michigan, rotunda. Receiving a contract at the end of December 1952, the dome was erected by 1 May 1953. With a ninety-three foot span, the aluminum frame with a plastic skin weighed just "...one-twentieth the tonnage of an aluminum radial-arch dome...". Following the success of the Ford Dome, Fuller developed several geodesic domes for use first by the United States Marine Corps and, within a few years, for the United States Air Force. The Marine Corps domes were temporary shelters deliverable by helicopter, while the Air Force used the domes for radar stations. In 1956, Fuller expanded his work for the federal government when he designed a dome for the Department of Commerce which needed an exhibition pavilion in Afghanistan. Flown in, the 8,000 square foot aluminum-tube geodesic frame with nylon skin was erected within forty-eight hours.³

The aluminum components of Fuller's Ford Dome were supplied by the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation. Kaiser's project engineer on the Ford Dome was Donald Richter, who had known Fuller since 1949 when Richter was a student at the Illinois Institute of Design and Fuller a visiting professor. Following completion of the Ford Dome, Richter returned to Kaiser's product development section. Working on various space-enclosure ideas, Richter developed a new type of geodesic dome which combined both the frame and skin into one structural element. This differed markedly from Fuller's design which required the construction of a frame and then a superimposed skin. Utilizing "...a diamond-shaped panel of aluminum sheet, with an aluminum strut stretching across its surface...", each panel would still be a three-dimensional triangle and, thus, create a geodesic dome. However, by combining the sections, the strength of the dome was increased while allowing a minimum frame only constructed of ten different sized panels. In addition to the basic advantages of a geodesic dome, the new design was highly adaptable to shop fabrication, which in turn, reduced the cost of the dome.⁴

The first dome erected using Richter's geodesic design was built in Honolulu in early 1957. Composed of 575 panels and costing a total of \$150,000, the first

³Cranston Jones, Architecture: Today and Tomorrow (New York, New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1961), 236-237.

⁴"The Dome goes Commercial," Architectural Forum Volume 108: Number 3, (March 1958), 120-121.

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Kaiser dome enclosed 15,300 square feet and measured 145 feet across its base. The Hawaiian Village dome was engineered by Richter for Kaiser Aluminum but the auditorium's entrances, walls and interior were designed by Welton Becket. Although the design was subsequently refined to overcome some shipping problems, as well as increase the roof's strength and weather-resistance, three other Kaiser domes were quickly erected following the same pattern as the Hawaiian Village dome. These were a convention center in Virginia, an auditorium in Texas and a conveyor equipment plant in Kansas. The convention center was the most expensive of the first four Kaiser domes, costing \$360,000. The auditorium and plant were similar to the Hawaiian Village Dome in price, costing \$160,000 and \$190,000 respectively.⁵

In 1958, the commercial application of Kaiser's domes seemed endless. Spurred by the wide-spread publicity of the Hawaiian Village dome, over 12,000 inquiries from potential customers flooded Kaiser's offices through March 1958. Potential projects include school gymnasiums, shopping centers, bowling alleys and gasoline stations. Company officials hoped to sell more than fifty domes that year alone. In anticipation, the company entered into agreements with fifteen outside firms to "...form panels and handle the dome's erection at the building site." Unfortunately, the dome failed to meet expectations as it was described in the company's 1980 history as "A product with much promise but poor performance...". At that time, and despite several domes which had achieved international recognition, the company's geodesic dome concept was described as "...bedeviled by the complexities of adapting it to individual needs...(and)....still waiting to take off."⁶ While Kaiser continued to supply domes around the world for exhibition spaces, auditoriums, and the like, the expected commercial use never took off. Problem with adapting the shape to the varying needs of business concerns, coupled with the costs of climate control in the large, open space, made the use of the geodesic dome less than attractive to commercial customers. The Citizens State Bank proved an effective test case, albeit with a negative outcome.

⁵Ibid., 120-122.

⁶Ibid. See also Mimi Stein, A Special Difference: A History of Kaiser Aluminum (San Francisco, California: Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, 1980), 89.

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CITIZENS STATE BANK

One of the Kaiser dome projects actually completed in 1958 was the Citizens State Bank in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Founded in 1948, Citizens State Bank was originally located at 601 Northwest 23rd Street. The first bank to locate in the expanding area north of the central business district, Citizens State Bank enjoyed tremendous business which soon necessitated the addition of drive-in facilities and additional parking to the first building. In 1956, the bank directors' purchased the block located on the southeast corner of the prominent intersection of Northwest 23rd Street and Classen Boulevard. Included in this purchase was the former Jefferson Elementary School which for several years, due to declining area enrollment, had been used as an administration building for the district. Razing the former school building, construction of the bank's new building began on 1 December 1957 with the glittering bank being opened to the public the following December.⁷

Designed by Robert B. Roloff of the local architectural firm of Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson & Roloff, the new bank building was unique in Oklahoma. The \$500,000 building was constructed by the Secor Construction Company, Incorporated, also of Oklahoma City. The dome itself was fabricated by Dale Benz, Incorporated. Dominated by its seventy-foot tall Kaiser aluminum geodesic dome, the bank was further distinguished as the first dome to be anodized gold and the only one to sit on ten-foot-high concrete walls. Additionally, as noted in the Kaiser Aluminum advertisement at the time, the building was "...the first application of a Kaiser Aluminum dome into the design of a banking facility."⁸

The design of Citizens State Bank was carefully planned, including critical expansion possibilities. Drawing upon their experiences in their previous building which necessitated two additions and was outgrown in under ten years, the bank directors' focused on providing convenience to their customers. As such, "Careful thought and planning ... went into the decision to use a dome-type building, and into selection of each material, piece of furniture and equipment." One of the convenient amenities of the new building were the four

⁷The Daily Oklahoman, (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma), 7 December 1958.

⁸Ibid. See also "Buildings in the News," Architectural Record Volume 125: Number 1 (January 1959), 10.

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drive-in windows located on the south side of the building. The drive-in windows were just that, cars could pull along side of the building and transact their business with tellers located in fully-equipped "booths" in the operations room of the main banking floor. For those without cars, a walk-up window was placed on the west side of the building. After hours, a night depository, also on the west side and accessible by foot or car, was available to customers. In addition to the possibility of adding two additional drive-in facilities, the building also included expansion space on the mezzanine level.⁹

Extremely functional, the design of Citizens State Bank was fairly sound. As originally expected, office space was opened on the mezzanine level in 1971 following the expansion of the bank's business to include a trust department. The one exception to the viability of the design was the drive-in facilities. As motorist traffic increased, the bank's drive-in facilities became inadequate. With access from all four sides, the flow of traffic through the drive-in windows was surely problematic, increasingly so as American cars grew in size. As such in 1971, a new seven lane drive-thru addition was constructed on the south side of the building. Entering from the north, the drive-thru exited all traffic south to Northwest 22nd Street, a secondary street which allowed easy access both to Classen Boulevard and Northwest 23rd Street.¹⁰

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

At the time of construction, Citizens State Bank was described as "ultra-modern." Prior to the beginning of construction, Architectural Forum showcased the plans for the bank in its "Projects" section, used to highlight recent and significant proposals. Labeled a "gilt-edged bank," the notation includes a photograph of the plan model. Architectural Record also noted the plan for the building, showing a photo of the model alongside models of other dome projects, including a retractable-roof stadium for Pittsburgh (never built) and the Union Tank Car roundhouse in Baton Rouge, a geodesic dome designed by Fuller's firm and eventually constructed of steel. Architectural Record again highlighted the Oklahoma City dome soon after its completion in its "Buildings in the News" section. Interior and exterior shots illustrate the completed building. The bank was included in an article in Oklahoma Today on "Contemporary Oklahoma

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰"People and Places," The Oklahoma Banker Volume 30: Number 1 (January 1971), 36; and, Volume 30: Number 7 (July 1971), 30.

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Architecture." While acknowledging masterworks like Frank Lloyd Wright's Price Tower (NR 1975), the article focuses on those buildings of note conceived by Oklahoma-based designers. The as of yet unfinished Citizens State Bank is prominently displayed. A 1959 advertisement for the Roto-Swing Door Company described the building as "A new concept in bank structure design, combining distinctive styling with maximum space arrangements for all banking services." Clearly unique, the design of the bank was not replicated in Oklahoma. Following its initial acclaim, the bank quietly took its place as a local and state landmark.¹¹

The use of a geodesic dome for Citizens State Bank's new building fits within the general movement of building design in the banking industry at the time. Following the banking crisis of the 1930s and the end of World War II, "...the bank program in the middle of the twentieth century...experience(d) a complete reversal in emphasis: safety and security (were) taken for granted and service to the customer (was) the pre-eminent consideration." Accordingly, "The architectural solution of the modern bank problem (was) to be found, as always, in the requirements of the program, the conditions of the site, and the imagination of the architect." Although the design possibilities were wide open, the architect was constrained by the "...economics of site, cost, and maintenance...", as well as the bank's building committee which was sure to prevent "...any extravagant inclusion of non-utilitarian features...". Overall, the bank buildings constructed in the 1950s broke the "...barriers limiting bank design to the classical style..." with the majority of bankers being in a "....receptive mood toward a contemporary bank expression."¹²

The August, 1948 issue of Oklahoma Banker featured an article entitled "Exhibit Architectural Drawings, The Bank of Today and Tomorrow." Written concerning an

¹¹"Projects," Architectural Forum Volume 109: Number 1 (January 1958), 7. See also "Buildings in the News," Architectural Record Volume 123: Number 4 (April 1958), 11; "Buildings in the News," Architectural Record Volume 125: Number 1 (January 1959), 10; "Contemporary Oklahoma Architecture," Oklahoma Today Volume VIII: Number 4 (Fall 1958), 2-3; Architectural Record Volume 125: Number 3 (March 1959), 328.

¹²Talbot Hamlin, ed. Forms and Functions of Twentieth-Century Architecture (New York, New York: Columbia University Press, 1952), 7-9, 35.

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exhibit by students at the University of Illinois on their projects for a "small bank," the article quotes unnamed bankers who took time out from a regional conference to attend the exhibit. Said one bank president, 'I am all for the designs that make more room for the customers. Many banks use too much space for officers.' Another noted that 'The front elevations in many plans do not give the appearance of safety, but I believe that the idea that a bank must be traditionally constructed of heavy, pillar-like materials has gone for the time being.'¹³

A survey of city directories for Oklahoma City from 1948 to 1965 shows the increasing trend toward the suburbanization of banking in the city. For the most part, Oklahoma City banks were concentrated in the downtown commercial district, the exceptions being a bank in Capitol Hill, a once independent section of the city south of the Canadian River, and one in Stockyards City, a commercial node that arose to serve the Oklahoma City stockyards. Citizens State bank was the first to appear outside of the downtown core. Of course, things in the older banks were not static. The Oklahoma National Bank, located in Capitol Hill, advertised the first drive-up service of any Oklahoma City Bank in 1948. Soon, the older banks scrambled to match this new idea. A number of downtown banks, including First National, developed some sort of auto-related banking, often tearing down adjacent buildings to facilitate the new trend.

The year 1957 proved to be important in local banking as new banks began to appear in the suburbs. This was also the year that Citizens acquired the lot for their new facility. Central State Bank began to advertise their new "Motor Bank," to be built on Classen Boulevard. Citizens new dome opened in December, 1958, the Central State Motor Bank opened six months later. By 1959, the number of banks in Oklahoma City had doubled over 1955.

All of these new banks were "modern" in design, most favoring the simple, flat-roofed box espoused by architects like Mies Van Der Rohe and others. Plain, flat surfaces and the ever-present cantilever are the hallmarks of these banks. The Citizens State bank, with its golden dome, broke the mold for banks in Oklahoma City, and for Oklahoma as a whole. A survey of articles concerning new and remodeled banks in Oklahoma Banker in the decade leading up to the opening of Citizens State bank shows a remarkable similarity in design of banks

¹³ The Oklahoma Banker. August, 1948, page 16.

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across the state. The golden dome of Citizens State Bank seemed to set a trend on new designs and forms.

New banks in Oklahoma City constructed after 1958 show a tendency toward the utilization of new shapes and materials. Prevalent among these were banks which fall into the stylistic category of Populuxe. The Populuxe style is defined as "a flamboyant decorative style of the period 1954-1964, employing pastel colors and futuristic contours to impart a sense of luxury to everyday objects...". Although not clearly defined, Populuxe architecture tends to draw upon popular images related to concepts foremost in the public's mind at the time, particularly the "last frontier," space, and the vehicle used to get there, the rocket. From today's standpoint, Populuxe architecture can best be described as an oversize expression of 1950s "kitsch."¹⁴ Both the geodesic dome and the Populuxe movement are reflective of their time. Advances in material engineering allowed for the use of newer, lighter materials in an ever-increasing complexity of shapes. Combined with a renewed interest in science (especially outer space), it is no wonder that it took Fuller's idea until the 1950s to catch on. Is it a coincidence that the year that the Citizens State bank was constructed was also the International Geophysical Year, a time when science was at the forefront of popular thought? Populuxe might have waned in popularity in succeeding years, but its rise was indicative of the path American popular culture was heading after World War II.

Importantly, Citizens State Bank and geodesic domes in general do not fall within the Populuxe classification. Although definitely harmonizing with Populuxe architecture, the geodesic dome was a more serious expression of form and function. The oddity of the multi-faceted aluminum dome itself was not intended to be reflective of the moon or other space-related object. Rather, the geodesic dome was the most technologically advanced, efficient and economical way to enclose a large space. The covering of the numerous panels and struts to make a more uniform appearance would have destroyed not only the viability but also the economy of the geodesic dome. Additionally, unlike the majority of Populuxe architecture which fell out of favor in the mid-1960s, geodesic domes continued to be constructed throughout the 1960s to the present.

¹⁴Thomas Hine, Populuxe: From Tailfins and TV Dinners to Barbie Dolls and Fallout Shelters (New York, New York: MJF Books, 1999), forword.

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Within Oklahoma City, Central State Bank opened a new, Populuxe style, motor bank at Northwest 6th Street and Classen Boulevard just five months after Citizens State Bank opened its "Gold Dome." Designed by Wright & Selby, the bank featured a concrete serpentine roof over the six drive-thru lanes with a small, one-story, brick office containing two walk-in teller booths located on the west side. The distinctive roof was noted to have a double scallop effect, in other words it had "...a wavy look when seen from both the side and top." The teller booths featured a "...a large glass window on one side and a rounded wall set with tiny blocks of blue ceramic tile on the other." The original sign, part of which remains, is also noteworthy as an exemplary example of Populuxe signage. At an unknown time, a second, smaller, nearly identical drive-thru was constructed across the street to the south. Although a remarkable bank building, Central State Motor Bank has been adversely impacted by the construction of a large three-story addition on the west side.¹⁵

Another unusual bank in Oklahoma City constructed after Citizens State Bank was the firmly Populuxe State Capitol Bank, located in the vicinity of the Oklahoma State Capitol at 3900 North Lincoln Boulevard. Designed by the firm Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson and Roloff, who were also responsible for the design of Citizens State Bank, State Capitol Bank was an eye-catching combination of concrete discs supported by glass walls; thus, the discs appeared to be floating in space. Opened in 1962, the concrete "Space Ship" bank was touted as "...the most forward looking bank in Oklahoma, both from the standpoint of architecture and services...". Although maintaining much of its original form, the bank has been altered with insensitive modifications which have destroyed much of the original "...floating air lobby...". Additionally, a large, multi-lane, drive-thru addition has been constructed on the south side of the building, replacing the original drive-thru on the north side of the building.¹⁶

¹⁵"Central State Bank Opens New Motor Bank," The Oklahoma Banker Volume 17: Number 5 (May 1959), 12. See also "Drive-Through Bank with a Functional Undulating Roof," Architectural Record Volume 130 (August 1961), 123.

¹⁶The Daily Oklahoman, 11 November 1962. See also Terry L. Griffith, Images of America: Oklahoma City, 1930 to the Millennium (Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2000), 54.

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In 1964, Founders National Bank opened their new building at 5613 North May Avenue in Oklahoma City. Also Populuxe in style, the building featured a "...floating roof supported by two fifty foot steel arches." As originally designed, the building was to have a nine-story addition on the rear which created a semi-circle behind the arches. For unknown reasons, the addition was constructed to the northwest of the bank as a separate building. Although retaining much of its original form, a second story has popped the top of the original flat roof and a sizeable drive-thru addition has been constructed on the west side of the building.¹⁷

Outside of Oklahoma City, the new designs tended to be more restrained. A 1963 bank in Fairview featured a curvilinear canopy over the new drive-thru facility. In Temple, the First National Bank completed also in 1963 had a raised sawtooth profile on its roof while the First national in Bartlesville completed a year later has a more conventional flat roof, but with exposed, bronzed trusses and columns and glass curtain walls. Guaranty National Bank in Oklahoma City featured a hexagonal copper roof, resembling a temple.¹⁸

None of the four identified late 1950s/early 1960s banks in Oklahoma City are similar. More importantly, only Citizens State Bank retains a good degree of integrity. The additions and other modifications to the other three buildings adversely impact their historic integrity. Although the addition to Central State Bank is easily distinguishable from the historic construction, the scale of the addition overwhelms the original design. The modifications to the two other buildings effectively destroys much of their original designs. Within the context of late 1950s/early 1960s bank architecture in Oklahoma City, Citizens State Bank is clearly a distinctive building worthy of recognition.

In terms of the dome, on the state level Citizens State Bank was the first of only four geodesic domes constructed. Constructed within a year of Citizens State Bank, the W.A. Graham Memorial Auditorium in Pryor, Mayes County, was a one-hundred-foot diameter Kaiser geodesic dome. Creating a 10,000 square foot

¹⁷"Founders National Bank Opens June 15", The Oklahoma Banker Volume 22: Number 8 (August 1964), 31. See also The Daily Oklahoman, 28 June 1964.

¹⁸ Drawn from The Oklahoma Banker, Volumes 16-22. Newly built or remodeled banks from around the state were highlighted; many included photographs.

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space, the civic auditorium had 800 "colorful seats," as well as complete stage facilities and dressing rooms. Also designed by Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson and Roloff, the auditorium featured a flatter silver-colored dome with prominent glass curtain walls on the front. The project cost \$214,299, all paid by the estate of W.A. Graham, which also paid for construction of a new city library, new city-county jail, new Mayes County Courthouse (also designed by the firm of Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson and Roloff) and a youth center, among numerous other projects of the same time period. It was estimated that the estate saved \$100,000 on construction of the auditorium by "...adopting the modern style architecture." The auditorium was erected across the street from the high school on land owned by the school district. Upon completion, the Board of Education assumed responsibility for the building. Unfortunately, the Graham Memorial auditorium was demolished in the 1990s due to an asbestos problem, compounded by a water leak and other "construction problems."¹

Like Citizens State Bank, the two other geodesic domes in Oklahoma are gold in color but that is where much of the similarity ends. Constructed in 1973, the Howard Auditorium serves as the fine arts building on the Oral Roberts University in Tulsa. Designed by local architect Ray James, the Robert S. Kerr Activity Center was completed on Ada's East Central State University campus in 1974. Both of these domes are much larger than Citizens State Bank and both appear to rise from the ground rather than from walls. The setting of the buildings is also a critical difference. Both of the later two buildings are located on college campuses. As such, the buildings are understandable only within their academic layout. To a limited degree, this is true of the building in Pryor too as it was located in proximity to the Pryor High School; however, the high school burned in the late 1960s and was replaced by a modern junior high school in about 1970. Currently, only the empty lot remains marking the site of the Graham Memorial Auditorium. Citizens State Bank, in contrast, is the only building located in an urban setting. Thus, the bank can be evaluated on its own terms.

¹1966 Pryor, Oklahoma City Directory, (Odessa, Texas: Johnson Publishing Company, 1966), 14. See also Betty Thomas, Town Historian, Pryor, Oklahoma, telephone interview with Cynthia Savage, 20 February 2003 and Pryor (Oklahoma) Jeffersonian, 17 January 1957; 22 May 1958; 17 July 1958; 11 September 1958; 11 December 1958; 27 August 1959; 3 September 1959; and, 10 September 1959.

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Additionally, the use of the three other Oklahoma geodesic domes is typical of this type of building. Since the construction of the first Kaiser dome, Hawaiian Village in 1957, numerous geodesic domes have been erected as auditoriums. The use of geodesic domes for athletic facilities has also been widely prevalent since the 1950s. Citizens State Bank stands out among geodesic domes as having a highly unusual, strictly commercial/office purpose.

As a building which is less than fifty years old, the exceptional architectural significance of Citizens State Bank has been recently recognized. Carol J. Dyson and Anthony Rubano, both with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and part-time faculty at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, have been researching modern bank design for several years. In October 2000, the pair presented their findings at the "Preserving the Recent Past Conference in Philadelphia," a national conference focused on mid-20th-century architecture. In general, Dyson and Rubano concluded that "The modern bank is worthy of documentation, evaluation, recognition, and preservation." Specifically related to Citizens State Bank, Dyson and Rubano determined the building is "...an exceptional example of modern financial-building design." They assert that the bank is

"...an important example of the expressive modernism that swept the banking industry in the very late 1950s. In an attempt to attract customers in a highly competitive market, banks announced their modernity and progressiveness by building flamboyant or exaggerated structures. The thought was to express their contemporary business practices in their architecture. Citizens State Bank brilliantly achieves this by using the geodesic dome, a highly efficient and technologically advanced structural system, in gold-anodized aluminum, a newly popular color."²⁰

Dyson and Rubano further conclude that the size and scale of the Citizens State Bank dome distinguishes the building as a significant example of the property type Geodesic Domes. In support of this, the Buckminster Fuller Institute

²⁰Carol J. Dyson and Anthony Rubano, in a letter to John Calhoun, Associate Planner, City of Oklahoma City, 11 July 2001, available at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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includes Citizens State Bank on its list of domes, the only bank on the list and one of the only permanent commercial buildings included.²¹

In addition to the significance of the building, Dyson and Rubano also recognized the "compelling" contribution of the bank's designers to the design of modern bank buildings in the United States. They assert within the context of their research that the 1950s and 1960s bank designs of the architectural firm of Bailey, Bozalis, Dickinson and Roloff are "...among the most significant financial-institution designs of the period." In addition to Citizens State Bank, the firm also designed the intriguing State Capitol Bank in Oklahoma City which, unfortunately, has been unsympathetically altered. Overall, Dyson and Rubano concluded the firm's "...bank designs, as represented by Citizens (State) Bank, exemplify one of the most richly dramatic periods of financial-building design."

Further acclaim for the building has come forth lately as the owner's recent demolition plans have given rise to a local and statewide movement to save the building. In addition to a grassroots group known as "Save the Dome" which has orchestrated several public demonstrations at the building, local and state efforts have gained placement of the building on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2002 "11 Most Endangered Historic Places" list. Daniel G. Carey, director of the Trust's Southwest Office, notes that "The geodesic dome - and this outstanding example (Citizens State Bank) - represents the 20th century's next wave of historic buildings, progressive structures that used science and modern technology to serve human needs." At present, the efforts to save the building appear to have been successful with a prospective owner negotiating for title of the property. If the new owner is successful, the forty-five-year-old function of the building will change; however, efforts will

²¹Carol J. Dyson and Anthony Rubano, "Banking on the Future: Modernism and the Local Bank," Preserving the Recent Past 2 Conference (Washington, D.C.: Historic Preservation Education Foundation, National Park Service, Association for Preservation Technology International, 2000), 2-52. See also Dyson and Rubano letter.

²²See Dyson and Rubano letter.

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be made to maintain and, if possible, restore the historic qualities of the bank.²³ The ownership of the bank changed in march, 2003.

As a local icon, the Citizens State Bank has endeared itself to the community. Long used as a geographic reference point, the Gold Dome has also been used in images of the city. Post card images are common, especially in the first decade after its construction (see attached images). The threat of demolition of this local landmark brought national attention and citizen involvement in efforts to save it demonstrate its importance to the community. Indeed, the February, 2003 issue of National Geographic uses the Gold Dome in its article on the Asian population center of Oklahoma City. In its section based on zip codes, "73106 - Lemongrass on the Prairie," illustrates the dome's strategic location at the gateway to the Asian District and of the current owner's desire to create an Asian cultural center once the bank moves out.²⁴

In conclusion, Citizens State Bank merits recognition as an exceptional example of a Modern style Geodesic Dome constructed for a commercial purpose in Oklahoma. As one of only four geodesic domes in the state, the building stands out as the first and the only bank. Within the context of local bank buildings, Citizens State Bank was at the forefront of modern bank design and remains the only one among identified period bank buildings to retain sufficient integrity to merit recognition of its architectural significance. Overall, Citizens State Bank has been a distinctive, peerless landmark within the state since its construction in 1958.

²³Daniel G. Carey, in a letter to John Calhoun, Planning Department, City of Oklahoma City, 18 July 2001, available at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

²⁴ "73106: Lemongrass on the Prairie," National Geographic Magazine, (Washington, DC: National Geographic Society), February, 2003, pages 127-130.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 35

Citizens State Bank
name of property
Oklahoma County, Oklahoma
county and State

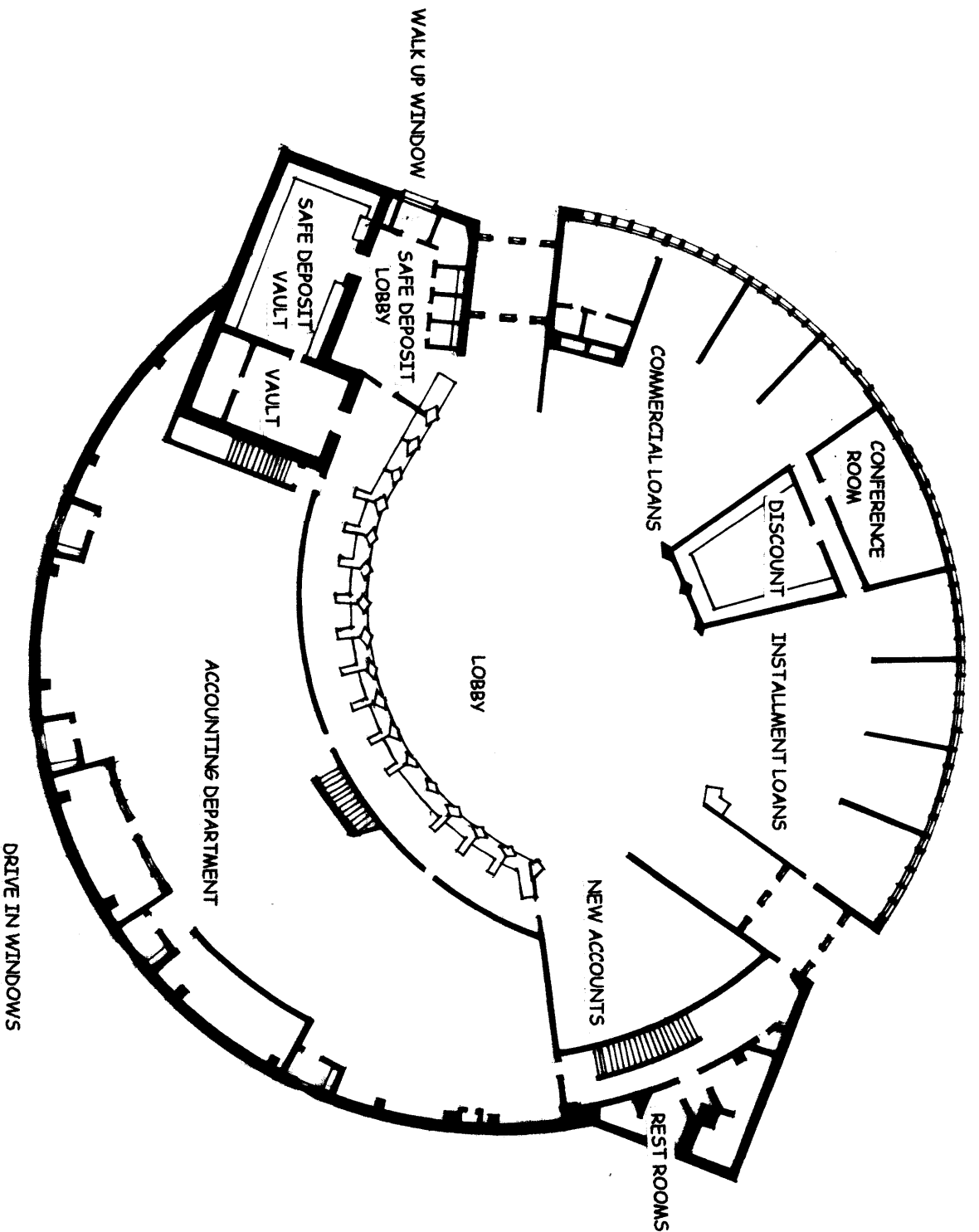
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All Block 7, University Addition, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, Section 29, Township 12 North, Range 3 West.

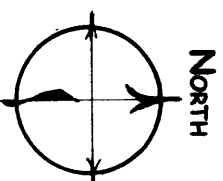
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include the property historically associated with Citizens State Bank.



FLOOR PLAN

(Not to Scale)



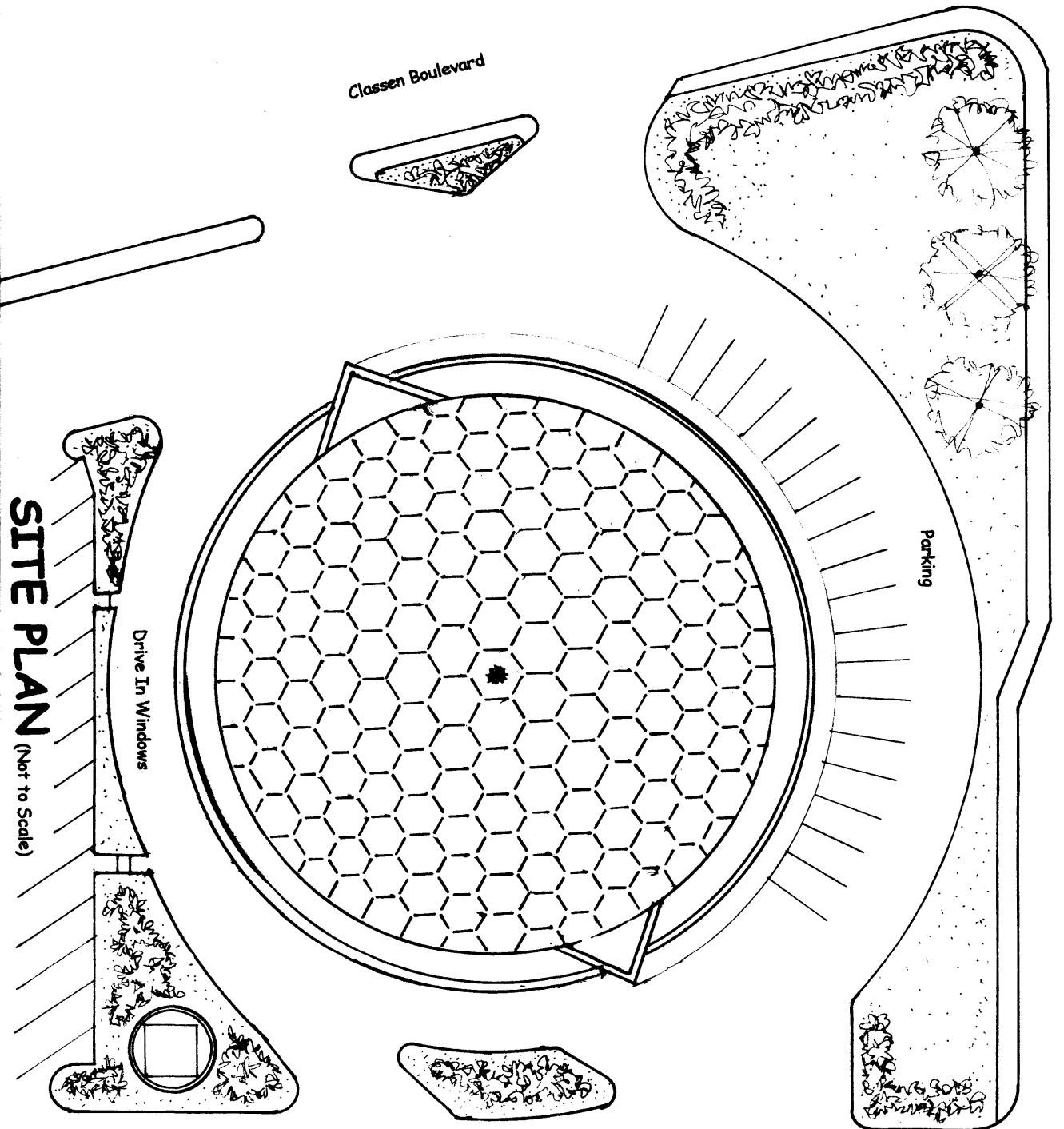
This drawing is based on the floor plan presented in the "Design for Convenient banking" brochure prepared by the bank for the inauguration of the new facility.

Prepared by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office

July 15, 2003

The New CITIZENS STATE BANK
Twenty-third at Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City

Twenty-third Street



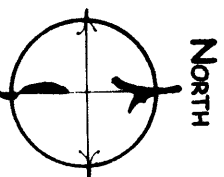
Classen Boulevard

Parking

Drive In Windows

SITE PLAN

(Not to Scale)



This drawing is based on the floor plan presented in the "Design for Convenient banking" brochure prepared by the bank for the inauguration of the new facility.

Prepared by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office

July 15, 2003

The New CITIZENS STATE BANK
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